

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2340

ANSWERED ON:01.08.2016

Higher Education

Anwar Shri Tariq

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is considering to impart higher education to the people from weaker sections and particularly to the children from the hilly states of the country;
- (b) if so, whether any survey has been conducted by the Government in this regard; and
- (c) if so, the details in this regard, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(DR. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY)

(a) to (c): 'Some Inputs for the Draft National Education Policy (NEP), 2016' has been formulated, wherein it has been recommended that a National Fellowship Fund, primarily designed to support the tuition fees, learning materials and living expenses for about 10 lakh students will be created. The scholarships from this fund will be made available to students belonging to the economically weaker sections. It also envisages that in order to address regional imbalances, differentiated policies for different terrains, such as, hill areas, tribal areas, desert areas, coastal areas, the criteria for determining educational backwardness at block and district levels will be revisited and new norms will be evolved. To identify educational and skill gaps and to facilitate special interventions for educationally backward regions, as also for socially, economically and educationally backward sections, district-wise mapping will be undertaken. Also, the critical stages in the learning periods of the disadvantaged children from socially and economically disadvantaged sections will be supported with extra remedial coaching or advisory facility. Suggestions have been invited on the Draft inputs on NEP from the relevant Ministries of the Government of India, all States and UTs, Hon'ble MPs and all stakeholders by 16th August, 2016. MHRD conducts an annual All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) which covers all the institutions in the country engaged in imparting of higher education on several parameters.
